

# The Brethren Evangelist

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This paper maintains that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the only and ultimate sources of appeal in matters of faith and practice.

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## Literary Notes

In an eloquent article on Public Speaking, in *The Saturday Evening Post* of October 6, United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge says:

It is a remarkable thing that there is neither wit nor humor in any of the immortal speeches that have fallen from the lips of man. To find a joke in Webster would be an offense. The only thing which Ingersoll wrote that will live are his oration at his brother's grave and his famous, *The Past Rises Before me Like a Dream*. But in neither of these productions of this genius of jesters is there is a single trace of wit. There is not a funny sally in all Burke's speeches. Lincoln's Gettysburg address, his first and second inaugurals, his speech beginning the Douglass campaign and his Cooper Union address in New York are, perhaps, the only utterances of his that will endure. Yet this greatest of story-tellers since Aesop did not adorn or deface one of these great deliverances with story or any form of humor.

The reason for this is found in the whole tendency of human thought and feeling—in the whole melancholy history of the race—where tears and grief, the hard seriousness of life and the terrible and speedy certainty of our common fate of suffering and of death, make sombre the master-cord of existence. The immortal things are all serious—even sad.

The October Magazine Number of *The Outlook* contains: An article by Jacob A. Riis, on Theodore Roosevelt's father, with a portrait; "Social Economics in the Paris Exposition" by Dr. W. H. Tolman, illustrated; single page pictures of the Duke of Abruzzi, and of the new battleship, the "Alabama"; a finely illustrated article on the great artist, George Fredrick Watts, by Cosmo Monkhouse, with many reproductions of Watts' paintings; "Problems of the Arid Region," by Elwood Mead, with many pictures; a quaintly interesting article about "The Last of the Silhouettes" (William Henry Brown), with curious silhouettes of Chief Justice Marshall, John Randolph, Andrew Jackson, Lafayette and others; a picturesque talk about John Burroughs, at "Slabslikes" (his summer cabin), with pictures; the twelfth of Mr. Mabie's "William Shakespeare," dealing with the Earlier Tragedies; besides poems, stories, the usual full history of the week, etc., etc. (\$3 a year. The Outlook Company, New York)

Prof. W. M. Sloane of Princeton has written an article on "Napoleon, the Boy," to appear in *The Youth's Companion* of October 11th. He paints a vivid picture of the early hardships and struggles of a boy of humble origin who became the greatest soldier and statesman of his time, and Emperor of the French.

*The Homiletic Review* for October bears evidence of how widely that standard monthly reaches out over the English-speaking world. In the Review Section alone the writers represent Great Britain, the Dominion of Canada, the United States, and India. Rev. F. B. Meyer, D.D., of London, Eng., writes on one of his favorite topics, "The Holy Spirit as Essential to Effective Gospel Preaching," in such a way as to uplift his readers spiritually. Principal Allen Pollok, D.D., of the Theological College, Halifax, N. S., contributes a paper of much practical wisdom on, "A Few Don'ts for Preachers." We wish that every preacher might read it. Writing on "The Stampede into Evolution," Prof. Jesse B. Thomas, D.D., of Newton Theological Institution, traces the stampede to the closing speculative sentence of Mr. Darwin's "Origin of Species," rather than to any scientific basis.

A paper of Professor Hunt, of Princeton University, on "The Religious Characters of the Canterbury Tales," is timely, since the present October brings the five hundredth anniversary of the death of Chaucer.

Among the Representative Sermons are sermons from Dr. Alexander Whyte, of Edinburgh, Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, of London, and Emperor William II., of Germany. There are likewise outlines for Autumn and for communion occasions, and suggestive themes and texts covering a wide range.

In September, Dr. D. S. Gregory discussed "The Forward Movement Demanded by the Present Conditions." In the present number he deals with "The Forward Movement—How to Be Brought About,"—setting forth the requisite "New Departures for the Preacher."

The article by Robert Walter, M.D., on "Mistakes of Modern Science" will attract attention as showing up the fatal scientific failure of Mr. Herbert Spencer's theory of transformism. The editorial entitled "The Supernatural Again Bowed Out," is a scathing exposure of the shallowness of Professor Goldwin Smith's "Guesses at the Riddles of Existence," and other kindred popular attacks upon Theism and Christianity.

The bare outline of the themes presented is enough to indicate that *The Homiletic Review* holds an unique relation to preachers as an educator and evangelizer.

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## Our Cream Pitcher

New York Observer

Let the love of God go with the love of nature. We cannot have too much of the latter if we have the former too. Without the conception of a Creator, nature is but a blind riddle, a sad enigma; without the recognized presence a Father within it, the physical world is but a prison-house, or at best a tenantless castle, a depressing solitude. Give us all the science that is possible, but give us also God. Yet we have no fear that science truly so called will ever remove in the slightest degree the presence of God, who as we so rejoice to believe, remains immanent in the world, but will rather more broadly unveil His glory, and more richly discover Him as an adorable object of human reverence and love.

Adelaide L. Rouse

"Remember," says Marcus Aurelius, "to retire into a little territory of thine own, and, above all, do not distract or strain thyself, but look upon all things as a man."

We should treat our spiritual and mental furnishings as we do our other possessions; we should take account of stock. We should tumble the contents of our chests up and down, and see in what condition they are; to see if moth and rust are corrupting our spiritual garments. We should "salute" ourselves. What manner of person am I? Have I changed in a year, in a month? Sometimes we dare to look ourselves in the face, but it must be done, and in this hour spent apart we may understand ourselves better than we do in days spent in struggle and work.

"Tis well true hearts should for a time retire  
To holy ground in quiet to aspire  
Toward promised regions of serenest grace."

Robert E. Speer

You never can drive out the uncleanness of evil thoughts except by pouring in the clean wholesomeness of the thoughts of Christ. Have you ever made Christ for any length of time the one object of thought? Try it, you men who want to break loose from the shackles that you know are keeping you away from the great blessings of God and from the pure sweetness of his free and holy life. What else is there to think about that is worth anything, compared with him? All treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in him. How it must grieve him, who, tho he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, to see us filling our minds with passing things, worthless things, dying after the fashion of the world, while Christ is crowded away into some bare and paltry place in our lives! Oh, that we might learn to make Jesus, and Jesus only, the object of all our thinking!

Pittsburg Christian Advocate

There is some joy in every Christian's heart. Much will depend on temperament, much on habit, much on outward circumstances, as to the development and cultivation of this sacred principle. But in every case you have the element and actual beginning—the root and foundation and flowing spring of heavenly and eternal joy. Blessed necessity, that compels every soul in Christ to be happy! A flame of renewal has passed thru the inmost being, refreshing waters of grace have cleansed every corrupted faculty and cooled every fevered thought. If he cannot break out into a loud song, he can chant some softer syllables of praise. It is even said to be joy "unspeakable;" and it is "full of glory."

College Notes

President Miller attended the Pennsylvania State Conference last week in the interest of Ashland College. It is to be hoped that thru such efforts the church both east and west may have its attention, at least, turned toward Ashland. During Professor Miller's absence his classes were taught by Mrs. Miller and Professors Witter and Furry.

Last Monday morning our mail was brought to the College for the first time. We appreciate the efforts of all concerned in securing this convenience for us. As a student put it the other day, "Things are indeed coming our way." "May it continue."

The students held a very enthusiastic and helpful prayer meeting Wednesday. The meeting was led by Miss Sanger of Iowa. The subject was "Spiritual Diligence." These meetings are well attended and contribute much to the deepening of the spiritual life of the students.

The Young People's Society was led Sunday evening, by B. F. McCullough of Pennsylvania. The attendance was not so large because of inclement weather, nevertheless a good meeting was held.

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